



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Masao MURADE

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 09/667,233

Examiner: Toan Ton

Filed: September 22, 2000

Docket No.: 106377

For: ELECTRO-OPTICAL DEVICE AND
METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING THE SAME

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTS

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the March 26, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-31, drawn to an electro-optical device, classified in class 349, subclass 123, with traverse.

In response to the Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species Ia, with traverse. At least claims 1-12 read on the elected species. At least claim 1 is generic to all species.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-33 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims or species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims or species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or

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distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction and Election of Species Requirements is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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